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DD/S-55-2925

29 October 1955

Mr. Harland Bartholomew, Chairman
National Capital Planning Commission
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bartholomew:

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to appear before your Commission at its meeting scheduled for 4 November 1955, to discuss the location of the Central Intelligence Agency headquarters building. At the meeting of the Commission on 4 August 1955, we informed you that we would give further consideration to the selection of a site. We thereupon engaged the firm of Clarke and Rapuano, consulting engineers and landscape architects, to make a comprehensive study of all properties suitable for consideration and to recommend the site they deemed best suited to the needs of this Agency. They have completed their study and recommend the use of a portion of the federally-owned property at Langley, Virginia.

After careful review, I indorse this recommendation and forward herewith copies for consideration by the Commission. I emphasize, because of its significance to us, that a far greater measure of security can be obtained at the Langley, Virginia, site. The building itself would be further from the public highways than at other sites, and it would be partially surrounded by Government-owned land under control of the Bureau of Public Roads and the National Park Service. It would be a simple matter to limit access to the site to those persons having legitimate business with the Agency while, at the same time, not interfering in any way with the public use of Memorial Parkway and Highway 123. As an added point for consideration, additional Government-owned land would be available in the event it might be necessary for us to expand because of a national emergency.

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I trust that this material and any further information I can furnish at the coming meeting will be sufficient for the Commission to make its report and recommendations on this matter in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Allen W. Dulles
Director

1 Encl. Copy of Clarke & Rapuano report (DD/S-55-2716 w/o Atts.)

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CONCUR: 29 October 1955

[redacted] STAT

L. K. WHITE
Deputy Director
(Support)

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